

ABSTRACT

There are provided four lens groups including a first lens group G1 having a positive refractive power, a second lens group G2 having a negative refractive power, a third lens group G3 having a positive refractive power, and a fourth lens group G4 having a positive refractive power, sequentially arranged from an object side. When a positional state of lenses is varied from a wide-angle-end state to a telephoto-end state, the second lens group is moved to an image side, the fourth lens group is moved for compensating a variation in a position of an image plane caused by the movement of the second lens group, and the first lens group and the third lens group are fixed along the optical axis. An aperture stop S is disposed at the object side of the third lens group. The third lens group includes a negative sub-lens group having a negative refractive power, and a positive sub-lens group disposed at the image side of the negative sub-lens group with an airspace interposed therebetween, the positive sub-lens group having a positive refractive power. In addition, the following conditional expression (1) is satisfied:

$$(1) \ 0.4 < Da/TL < 0.5$$

where Da is a distance between the aperture stop and the image plane, and TL is an overall optical length

(distance between a lens surface at the most object side in a lens system and the position of the image plane, along the optical axis).